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Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-11

NSAE-00 RSC-01 NSCE-00 EA-13 NSC-07 PRS-01 DRC-01

/064 W
---------- 060079
R 181747Z SEP 74
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5117
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 14800

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, CB, GW, UN
SUBJECT: KHMER REPRESENTATION ISSUE AT UNGA

1. ON SEPTEMBER 16, EMBOFF MET WITH TRUHART OF THE FONOFF'S SEA DIVISION (BERENDONCK IS ON VACATION) IN ORDER TO PURSUE FURTHER THE BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE KHMER CREDENTIALS ISSUE HELD DURING OUR BILATERAL CONSULTATION ON UNGA ISSUES LAST WEEK (PARA 15 OF BONN 14609). TRUHART SAID:

A. BONN GREATLY FEARED A DEFEAT OF THE GKR AND THE SEATING OF GRUNK. THE FRG'S "VACANT SEAT" INITIATIVE WITHIN THE EC-9 WAS INTENDED NOT TO WEAKEN OR DISADVANTAGE THE GKR, BUT RATHER TO AVOID AN OUTCOME WHICH THE GERMANS BELIEVE WILL EXACERBATE THE CONFRONTATION IN CAMBODIA.

B. GIVEN THE OPPOSITION OF ITS EC PARTNERS, THE FRG NOW REGARDED ITS PROPOSAL AS DEAD. IT
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NEVER HAD, NOR DOES IT HAVE NOW, THE INTENTION

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OF PURSUING THIS INITIATIVE ON ITS OWN.

C. THE FRG WILL THEREFORE SUPPORT ANY REASONABLE PROPOSAL MADE BY THE ASIAN SUPPORTERS OF THE GKR, EVEN THOUGH ITS MOST LOGICAL COURSE SINCE BONN HAS NO DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PHNOM PENH, WOULD BE TO ABSTAIN. TRUHART UNDERSTOOD THAT THE JAPANESE WERE CONSIDERING A RESOLUTION CALLING ON THE TWO CAMBODIAN SIDES TO SEEK THE ASSISTANCE OF THE UNSYG IN BEGINNING NEGOTIATIONS. THE FRG WOULD CERTAINLY SUPPORT THIS, JUST AS IT WOULD SUPPORT A MOVE FOR POSTPONEMENT OF THE ISSUE OR FOR MAKING IT AN IMPORTANT QUESTION.

2. COMMENT: THE GERMANS OBVIOUSLY HOPED THAT, ON THE BASIS PRIMARILY OF BERENDONCK'S CAMBODIAN EXPERIENCE AND CLOSE CONTACTS WITH BOTH SIDES, THEY COULD PLAY A USEFUL INTERMEDIARY ROLE IN BRINGING ABOUT A SOLUTION WHICH WOULD HAVE REQUIRED COMPROMISES BOTH FROM THE GKR AND THE GRUNK BUT WOULD IN ANY EVENT PREVENT THE SEATING OF GRUNK. THIS WAS NOT JUST A HOBBY HORSE OF BERENDONCK'S. WE HAVE NO DOUBT THAT BERENDONCK'S PRESENTATION TO THE EC-9 CORRESPONDENTS ON SEPTEMBER 6 WAS SUPPORTED BY FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER. THE GERMANS GAVE UP ON IT, NOT BECAUSE THEY HAD CONCLUDED IT WAS A BAD IDEA, BUT BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT GET THE SUPPORT OF THEIR EC PARTNERS. NOW, WHILE THEY ARE ON OUR SIDE, THEIR BASIC ESTIMATE OF THE SITUATION HAS NOT CHANGED.
HILLENBRAND

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